



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor : Yuji NOMURA, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/468,143  
Filed : DECEMBER 21, 1999  
Title : NETWORK-DEVICE CONTROL SYSTEM AND  
APPARATUS  
Examiner :  
Group Art Unit :

January 11, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will

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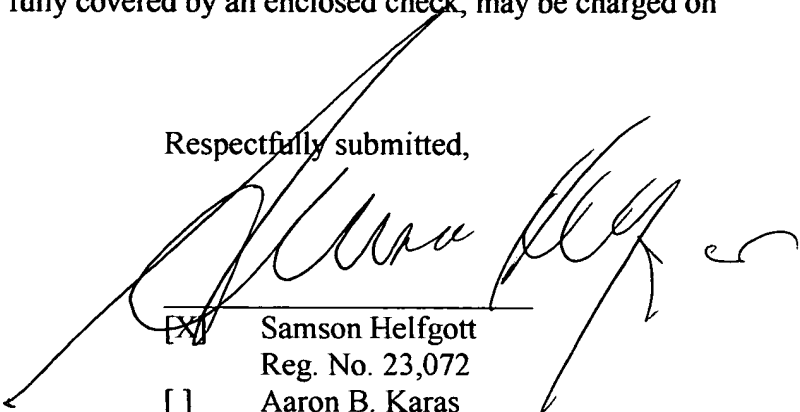
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of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
☒ Samson Helfgott  
Reg. No. 23,072  
☐ Aaron B. Karas  
Reg. No. 18,923  
☐ Leonard Cooper  
Reg. No. 27,625  
☐ Emma Shleifer  
Reg. No. 29,734

HELFGOTT & KARAS, P.C.  
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60TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10118  
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